

The Humble

REPRESENTATION AND PETITION

Of divers VVell-affected Gentlemen,
Free Holders, and others of the
County of OXON.

Presented to the supream Authority
of the Nation, the Commons

in Parliament Assembled,

April 6. 1649.



VVith the Speech of Mr. Butler at the
delivery of the said Petition, and
the Speakers Answer

thereunto.

Printed for I. W. at the Black-Spiced Eagle
at the West-end of Pauls.

Die Veneris April 6th 1649.

Ordered by the Commons Assembled in Parliament, that the humble Representation and Petition of divers wel-affectd Gentlemen, Free-holders, and others of the County of *Oxon*, be referred unto

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|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sir <i>Arthur Haslerig.</i> | Alderman <i>Wilson.</i> |
| Sir <i>James Harrington.</i> | Mr. <i>Millington.</i> |
| Sir <i>John Danvers.</i> | Mr. <i>Oldsworth.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Whitlock.</i> | Colonel <i>Ven.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Humphrey Edwards.</i> | Colonel <i>Moor</i> |
| Mr. <i>Dove.</i> | Lord <i>Gray.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Whitacre.</i> | Mr. <i>Fenwick.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Say.</i> | Mr. <i>Scot.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Hypfly.</i> | Mr. <i>Garland.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Smyth.</i> | Mr. <i>Love.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Lemmon.</i> | Mr. <i>Masham.</i> |
| Mr. <i>James Challenor.</i> | Mr. <i>Boon.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Thomas Challenor.</i> | Mr. <i>Bryssoil.</i> |
| Sir <i>Thomas Wroth.</i> | Mr. <i>Blachstone.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Asbe.</i> | Mr. <i>Pury.</i> |
| Mr. <i>W. Allen.</i> | Mr. <i>Weaver.</i> |
| Mr. <i>Salway.</i> | Mr. <i>Geardon.</i> |
| Sir <i>G. Northon.</i> | |

Or any three of them, to hear what shall be further presented to them by the Petitioners, and such as are authorized by them, and this Committee are to meet this afternoon at two of the clock in the Dutchy Chamber, and this Committe have power to look on the former Votes, and to present some way to the House for reception of Ministers to supply the places that are unsupplied, and to have the same power with the Committee for Itinerary Ministers, Mr. & *Garland* is to have special care hereof.

To



To the Supream Authority of the
Nation, the Commons in Par-
liament assembled.

*The humble Representation and Petition
of divers wel-affected Gentlemen, Free-
holders, and others of the County of
Oxon.*

Humbly sheweth,



That our Spirits are much revived, and
our hearts raised up in the sensible
apprehension of the good hand of
God upon you, in your late and pre-
sent actings, in referrence to Com-
mon Right and freedom, and for
much as your work tends to the wel-being of this
A Com-

Common wealth, we as members thereof, from our present sense of some grievances in the County, City, and University of Oxford. Yet unremoved, do conceive our selves in duty obliged to acquaint you therewith; As namely the obstruction and delay of Justice, through the corruption, and disaffection of divers now in Commission, the countenancing of, and countivng at Delinquents by some of our Committee men; and their Officers; the irregular proceedings of the visitors in the University, the violent endeavours of the parochiall Ministers, to im-bitter and stirre up the Spirits of the people, in opposition to your present actions, and under pretence of breach of Covenant, the great & intolerable burthen of the Chancellors Arbitrary Court, in the University, the manifest evil of keeping many of our Laws in an unknown tongue, the great increase and necessity of the poor, the great quantity of ground of ~~Parishes and Parks~~ (now belonging to the State) which lie wast, without benefit to the publique, the exemption of Colledge lands from Taxes, the want of faithfull representatives for this County, to sit in your house, and to represent these and other our grievances for our good, the consideration of all which makes us to represent these our humble requests and desires, as followeth, *viz.*

1. That all our disaffected Justices may be forthwith removed, and such only impowred as have and shall do approve themselves faithfull to the publique interest.

2. That all our disaffected Commissioners and
Committee

Committee men, with their officers, may also be removed, and such only be intrusted as are of known fidelity, and honesty amongst us, and all called to an account.

3. That such of the visitors appointed by Parliament, as have not appeared, and acted in the late visitation of the said University, according to the trust reposed in them, may be disabled to sit or act as visitors for the future, and that such others as are able and well-affected, may be added to the remaining number, and that the persons so to be added, may have power to review and rectifie (if there be cause) the procedure of the said visitors, and from time to time to act to all intents and purposes, as the other visitors may or might have done.

4. That such Ministers, or others, that shall in Preaching, Praying, or otherwise endeavor to discontent, and disaffect the people of the Nation, in rendring your proceedings, (as to the Tryal of the late King, nulling the house of Lords, and others) to be a breach of Covenant, by their misrepresentation thereof, thereby stirring up the people to new Engagements and Insurrections, may by strict Order from you, be apprehended and punished as deceivers of the people, and disturbers of the publique peace; and also that a competent number of Itinerary Ministers may be appointed in this County, and paid out of the publique Treasury.

5. That all Arbitrary and Tyrannical Courts in this University, or elsewhere, may be wholly taken away and abolished.

6. That as many of our Laws as are in an unknown tongue, may be translated into English: That what are corrupt may be corrected, the evil repealed, the obscure explained, and the good revived.

7. That all the good Laws for relief of the poor, may be duly put in execution by the several Justices, setting them to work, or otherwise providing for them, that no common begger be found amongst us.

8. That all those Forests, Lands, and Parkes that now lie waste, may be speedily put to the best improvement for the use of the publique.

9. That the well-affected of this County, who have been always faithful to your proceedings (and none else) may have liberty to make choice of so many representatives, as are wanting in this County to sit in the House, and none but such capable of being chosen, that have faithfully adhered to you in all your Engagements from first to last.

10. That all Colledge Lands may be taxed, and pay equally with other Lands, in all Charges and Contributions whatsoever.

11. Lastly,

11. Lastly, That you will be pleased to appoint some of your own Members to receive information from those that shall present these our humble desires, what persons we conceive fit to be imployed and intrusted in the severall places and offices before mentioned.

All which we refer to the wisdom and Judgement of this Honourable House, not doubting your speedy and serious consideration thereof, and answer thereunto, being (as we conceive) of most necessary and present concernment, which will be a further testimony to us, and others, of your real intentions and endeavors to act in all things for our publique good.

Die Veneris April. 6. 1649.

THe House being informed, that divers Gent. of the County of Oxford were at the doore, they were called in, and after a short preamble made by Mr. Butler to this effect; viz.

WE are desirous from divers Gent. and wel affected Person-
sant of the County of Oxon, to present both our grie-
vances, and divers Requests unto this Honourable House; Truly
they are not a little sensible of the great blessing of God on them, in
you & your unwearied labors, love and pains, and many good fruits
of your impartial Justice, by that remnant that God hath pleased to
bestow on this day; And we may say, had not there been a rem-
nant we had been as Sodom, and we had been as Gomorah: And
we hope, as God hath preserved you, so he will still preserve and
continue you faithful, and we desire these grievances and requests
may be read, and such a speedy, and effectual Answer thereto,
as to your Wisdom shall seem meet.

He delivered a Petition, which after the Petitioners were
withdrawn, was read, and was intitled, The humble Representa-
tion, and Petition of divers wel affected Gentlemen, Freeholders,
and others of the County of Oxon.

Resolved &c. That Mr Speaker do returne the Thanks of
this House unto the Petitioners.

The Petitioners being again called in, Master Speaker by
Command of the house, gave them this answer.

Gentlemen, you of the County of Oxford, the House hath
read your Petition, and do likewise take notice of the discreet and
moderate expressions of it, the fair and modest delivery of it, which
they conceive did proceed from a good intention, and the matters
themselves shew it, and they have appointed a Committee to meet
this afternoon in the Dutchy Chamber, to consider thereof, and to
heare what you shall further present to them; many of the par-
ticulars of your Petition are taken into consideration already, o-
thers will be taken into consideration by this Committee, and the
expressions & explanations you made to me, the House hath ta-
ken notice of, and have commanded me to returne you hearty thanks
for your good affections, and I do returne you the hearty thanks of
this House accordingly.

Hen: Scobel Cleric. Parliamenti.

FINIS.